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International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

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Report of the informal consultations for preparation of the International Meeting held at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre

1. In conformity with the practice followed at United Nations special conferences and General Assembly resolution 58/213 B of 10 June 2004, informal consultations were held on 8 January 2005 (on the outcome document) and on 9 January 2005 (on the organization of work). Participation in the consultations was open to representatives of all States invited to participate in the conference.

A. Opening of the informal consultations

2. The Secretary-General of the International Meeting opened the meeting.

B. Election of the presiding officer of the informal conference consultations

3. Upon the proposal of the Secretary-General of the International Meeting, Jagdish Koonjul, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations, was elected Chairman of the informal consultations by acclamation.

C. Adoption of the rules of procedure

4. At the informal consultations, on 9 January, it was recommended that the International Meeting adopt the provisional rules of procedure as contained in document A/CONF.207/2.

D. Election of officers other than the President

5. Also at the informal consultations on 9 January, it was recommended that the International Meeting endorse the recommendations concerning the composition of the General Committee.

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6. At the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting elect by acclamation Paul Raymond Bérenger, Prime Minister of Mauritius, President of the International Meeting.

7. Also at the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting elect by acclamation Pravin Kumar Jugnauth, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Mauritius Vice-President ex-officio of the International Meeting.

8. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the informal consultations informed the International Meeting that the Chairmen of the regional groups had endorsed the following nominations for Vice-Presidents of the International Meeting:

African States Group (3 seats):	Cape Verde, Mauritius and Morocco
Asian States Group (3 seats):	Nauru, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu
Eastern European States Group (3 seats):	Croatia, Czech Republic and Lithuania
Latin America and Caribbean States Group (3 seats):	Bahamas, Barbados and Belize
Western European and Other States Group (3 seats):	Belgium, Italy and New Zealand

9. Also at the same meeting, it was recommended that the Vice-President, Christopher Fitzherbert Hackett (Barbados) be elected by acclamation Rapporteur-General of the International Meeting.

10. At the same meeting, it was recommended that Don MacKay (New Zealand) be elected by acclamation Chairman of the Main Committee.

E. Adoption of the agenda: accreditation of non-governmental organizations

11. At the informal consultations on 9 January, it was recommended that the International Meeting adopt the provisional agenda as contained in document A/CONF.207/1.

12. Also at the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting approve the participation of non-governmental organizations as listed in documents E/CN.17/2004/9 and A/59/409 and Corr.1.

Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations

13. At the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting approve the participation of the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission and Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International, two intergovernmental organizations wishing to participate as observers in the International Meeting.

F. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee

14. At the meeting on 9 January, it was recommended that the International Meeting approve the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.207/4.

15. At the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting endorse the recommendations relating to the allocation of items, time limits for speakers and other organizational matters during the general debate as set out in document A/CONF.207/4.

16. Also at the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting approve the timetable for the work of the International Meeting and the organization of meetings, including the work of the Main Committee, as set out in the annex to document A/CONF.207/4, with the proviso that the organization of work of the Main Committee would be adjusted as required.

17. Also at the same meeting, it was further recommended that the International Meeting endorse the recommendations concerning the high-level segment, panels, round tables and Main Committee, as well as the arrangements regarding the organization of meetings, as set out in document A/CONF.207/4.

G. Credentials of representatives to the International Meeting

18. At the meeting on 9 January, the Chairman of the informal consultations informed the meeting that the following countries had indicated that they would not be attending the International Meeting: Benin, Bhutan, Ghana, Liechtenstein and Uruguay. On a proposal by the Chairman, it was recommended that rule 51.2 of the provisional rules of procedure, which deals with the quorum for any committee or subcommittee of the International Meeting, be suspended in order to allow the Credentials Committee to meet with only four members present, the quorum for that Committee of nine members normally being five. In this connection, it was recommended that the members of the Credentials Committee include China, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America.

H. Report of the International Meeting

19. At the same meeting, it was recommended that the International Meeting take note of the recommendations regarding the report of the International Meeting contained in paragraph 18 of document A/CONF.207/4.